ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



Sam Cotten, Commissioner Scott Kelley, Director



Contact: Eric Coonradt

Phone: (907) 747-6688 Fax: (907) 747-6693 Sitka Area Office 304 Lake Street, Room 103 Sitka, Alaska 99835 Date: March 15, 2017

Time: 3:45 p.m.

SITKA SOUND HERRING FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT

Sitka....The Alaska Department of Fish and Game announced today that the Sitka Sound sac roe herring fishery will be on 2-hour notice effective 8:00 a.m., Friday, March 17, 2017. This means that a fishery could be expected with a minimum of two hours notice after the effective time.

One test sample was taken near Kamano Point on Kruzof Island. The results of the sample are as follows:

Kamano Point: 0.5 tons, mature roe -8.9%, immature roe -2.7%, average weight -133 grams. Although this set size is not very large, we believe it is representative of the fish observed along the Kruzof Island shoreline today.

No aerial surveys have been conducted since Friday, March 10, due to poor weather.

The department will hold an organizational meeting with fishermen, processors, and interested individuals at 1:00 p.m., Thursday, March 16 at the Centennial Hall, Room 1.

All processors, fishing vessels, and tenders must be registered with the department before participating in the fishery.

The *R/V Kestrel* will be arriving Sitka on Friday morning, March 17. Minimal test sampling may occur on Thursday morning.

Seine boats wanting to conduct practice sets or stretch nets may do so in Eastern Channel south of Jamestown Bay until further notice.

News releases web site: http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main.

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